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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

Inventor: Masahiro Abukawa

Serial No. 10/030,461

Filed: 1-7-02

For: Mortar Grouting Type Joint For Reinforcing Bars/

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER
37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1)**

February 21, 2002

Box DD
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

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Sir:

Applicant submits this Statement in accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §1.97-1.98, and more particularly in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1), i.e., filing the statement within three months of the filing date of the application. Enclosed herewith is the List of References Cited by Applicant (PTO-1449), including copies of all references listed thereon.

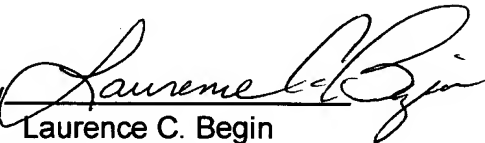
JP 2711605 has been cited in the International Search Report. As all other references listed on attached Form PTO-1449 are in English, or have English translations, under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3), no further commentary is believed to be necessary. Applicant respectfully solicits the Examiner's consideration of the cited references and entry thereof into the record of this application.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box DD, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on February 21, 2002

Name of Person Mailing: Lisa Steward Signature: Lisa Steward Date: 2/21/02

Applicant, by submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, is attempting to fully comply with the duty of candor and good faith mandated by 37 C.F.R. §1.56. As such, this Information Disclosure Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any of the enclosed references, or other information referred to therein, is otherwise "material to patentability," as that term is defined in that section.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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Enclosures